AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A method for treating vulnerable plaque within a blood vessel comprising:

identifying an implantation site in a blood vessel with vulnerable plaque, wherein the implantation site is at or upstream of the vulnerable plaque;

delivering an expandable medical device containing a therapeutic agent which stabilizes the vulnerable plaque to the blood vessel at the selected implantation site;

implanting the medical device at the implantation site; and

delivering the therapeutic agent from the expandable medical device primarily to a luminal side of the medical device ~~to vessel wall tissue~~ over an administration period sufficient to stabilize the vulnerable plaque.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is an anti-inflammatory.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is a nonsteroidal anti inflammatory.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is an anti-metabolite.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is an immuno-suppressant.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is an antithrombin.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is an anti-leukocyte.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is a high density lipoprotein.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is a cyclooxygenase inhibitor.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is a glitazones or P par agonist.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is contained in a plurality of openings in the device.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 11, wherein the openings also contain a therapeutic agent for treatment of restenosis.

13. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 11, wherein the therapeutic agent is arranged in the openings with a barrier layer arranged to achieve ~~for~~ directional delivery primarily to the ~~a~~-luminal side of the device.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 13, wherein the openings also contain a therapeutic agent for treatment of restenosis arranged for directional delivery primarily to a mural side of the device.

15. (Currently amended) An expandable medical device for delivering a therapeutic agent locally to a vulnerable plaque, the device comprising:

an implantable medical device body configured to be implanted within a coronary artery; and

a therapeutic dosage of a therapeutic agent for stabilization of vulnerable plaque, the therapeutic agent affixed in openings in the implantable medical device body in a manner such that the therapeutic agent is released primarily luminally to the vulnerable plaque at a therapeutic dosage and over an administration period effective to stabilize the vulnerable plaque.

16. (Original) The device of Claim 15, wherein the therapeutic agent is an anti-inflammatory.

17. (Original) The device of Claim 15, wherein the therapeutic agent is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory.

18. (Original) The device of Claim 15, wherein the therapeutic agent is an anti-metabolite.

19. (Original) The device of Claim 15, wherein the therapeutic agent is an immuno-suppressant.

20. (Original) The device of Claim 15, wherein the therapeutic agent is an antithrombin.

21. (Original) The device of Claim 15, wherein the therapeutic agent is an anti-leukocyte.

22. (Original) The device of Claim 15, wherein the therapeutic agent is a high density lipoprotein.

23. (Original) The device of Claim 15, wherein the therapeutic agent is a cyclooxygenase inhibitor.

24. (Original) The device of Claim 15, wherein the therapeutic agent is a glitazones or P par agonist.

25. (Currently amended) The device of Claim 15, ~~wherein the therapeutic agent is affixed in the medical device for delivery primarily from a luminal side of the medical device, and~~ further comprising an antirestenotic ~~antiresenotic~~ agent affixed to the medical device for delivery primarily from a mural side of the medical device.

26. (Original) The device of Claim 15, wherein the therapeutic agent is affixed in the implantable medical device with a biocompatible polymer.